

562, 2 From  
72, 2 Prof. N. J. Luedke M.D.  
[New York. State hospital, Willard.]

PLANS AND ELEVATIONS

AND A

HISTORICAL SKETCH

OF THE

Willard Asylum for the Insane,

AT

Willard, on Seneca-Lake, N. Y.

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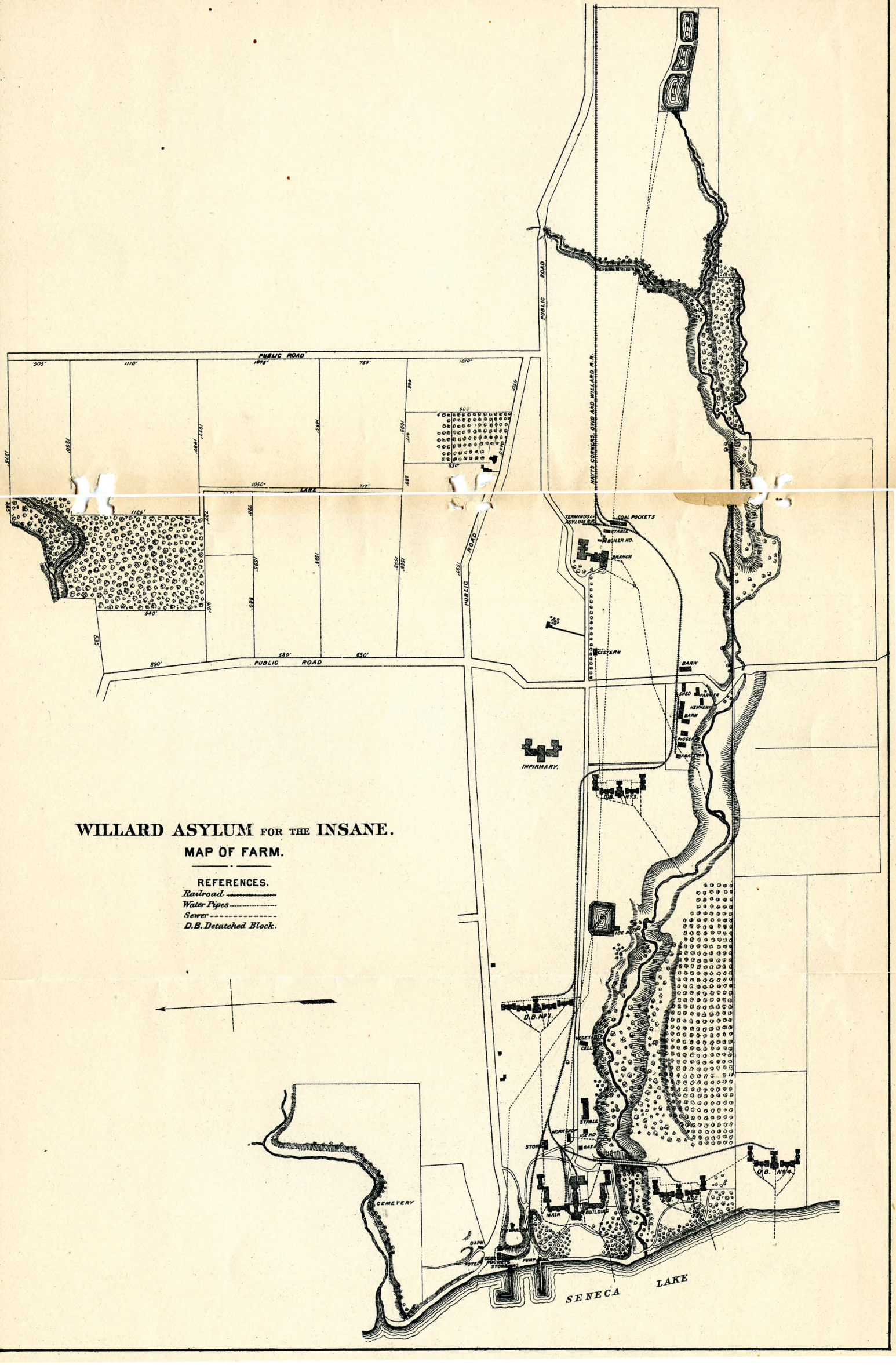
1887.

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Geneva  
Pueco  
RC  
445  
N7  
W65

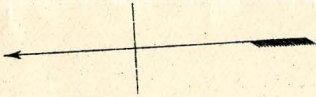
WILLARD ASYLUM PRESS,  
WILLARD, N. Y.





**WILLARD ASYLUM FOR THE INSANE.**  
**MAP OF FARM.**

- REFERENCES.**  
Railroad —————  
Water Pipes —————  
Sewer —————  
D.B. Detached Block.



INFIRMARY.

COAL POCKETS

TERMINUS

REGISTER

BARN

SHED

NEW

BARN

STABLE

WATER

CELL

STABLE

NO.

STABLE

NO.

STABLE

NO.

STABLE

NO.

STABLE

NO.

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NO.

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NO.

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PLANS AND ELEVATIONS

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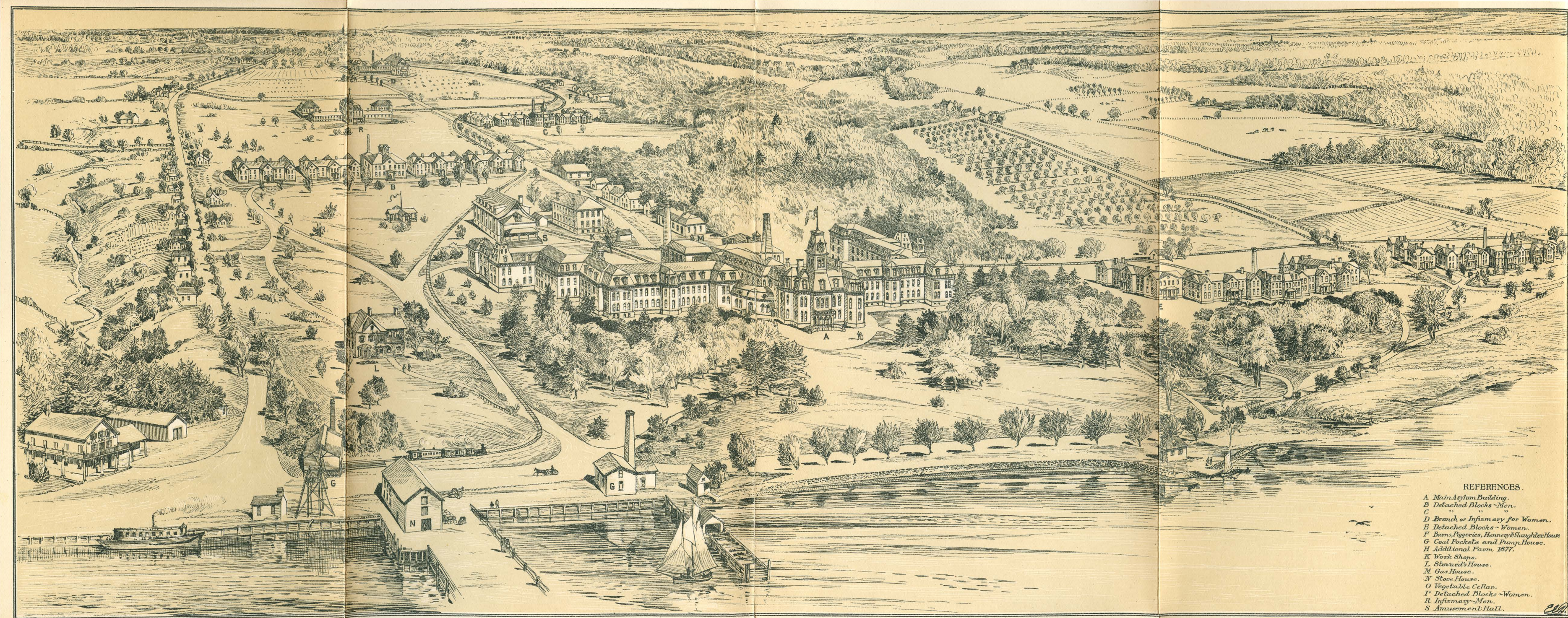
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1887.

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WILLARD ASYLUM PRESS,  
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# REFERENCES.

- A Main Asylum Building.
- B Detached Blocks - Men.
- C " " " " " "
- D Branch or Infirmary for Women.
- E Detached Blocks - Women.
- F Barns, Piggeries, Henney & Slaughter House.
- G Coal Pockets and Pump House.
- H Additional Farm 1877.
- K Work Shops.
- L Steward's House.
- M Gas House.
- N Store House.
- O Vegetable Cellar.
- P Detached Blocks - Women.
- R Infirmary - Men.
- S Amusement Hall.



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BIRD'S-EYE VIEW

OF THE

Willard Asylum for the Insane.

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## DESCRIPTION.

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The Asylum is situated on the east shore of Seneca Lake, sixteen miles south of Geneva and twenty-two miles north of Watkins. It may be reached by steamboat from Geneva and Watkins at all times of year, as the lake is seldom frozen; or by the Lehigh Valley R. R., a switch connecting the asylum with this road at Hayt's, five miles distant; or by the Syracuse, Geneva and Corning R. R., and ferry from Dresden. The main building is located within 350 feet of the lake shore, (see plans in appendix); 1400 feet east of the main building (B) is group of five buildings for men (see plan No. 2.), and still further east—1700 feet—is a similar group for men (C). An infirmary for 150 men (R) is located about 700 feet from group C, 1800 feet east of the latter group and one mile from the Main Building, at an altitude of 290 feet above the lake level, is an infirmary for 225 women (D). To the south of the main building, 350 feet, is a detached block for 250 women (E), uniform in design to block C; and still further south, 400 feet, is a similar group for women (P). The Asylum premises cover an area of 930 acres. The village of Ovid lies three miles directly east from the main building. The water supply for all buildings below group C, is obtained from the lake and distributed from a reservoir to be seen below C in the opposite view. The supply for the buildings above the reservoir is obtained from springs located in the village of Ovid. The sewage is discharged into the lake by the water carriage system through three mains. A narrow gauge railroad connects all the buildings, and is used for the transportation of supplies.



## WILLARD ASYLUM FOR THE INSANE.

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Subsequent to the creation and opening of the State Lunatic Asylum at Utica, in 1843, the subject of increasing and improving the accommodation for the insane of the State of New York, engaged the attention of the Legislature from time to time. In January, 1844, Dorothea L. Dix presented a *memorial* to the Legislature, representing the condition of the insane in county alms-houses and other places as she found it on a personal inspection. In 1855, a convention of superintendents of the poor memorialised the Legislature to erect additional asylums. In the year 1856, a special committee of the Senate created for the purpose, made a personal inspection of the asylums and poor-houses, and presented a report with recommendations to the Legislature of 1857. During this period and following it, successive governors of the state, the managers of the State Lunatic Asylum and its superintendent, Dr. Gray, as well as the State Medical Society, urged upon the Legislature the wretchedness and neglect that existed in the care of the insane in county-houses, and the necessity of enlarging the accommodations for the increasing number of the insane. While these various movements were continuous in respect to time they were not connected. The state did not act and the various suggestions were unheeded.

In the year 1863, the State Medical Society appointed Dr. Charles A. Lee, Dr. Sylvester D. Willard, and Dr. George Cook, a committee to confer with the medical committees of the Senate and Assembly, on the subject of the "appointment of a Commissioner of Lunacy, whose duty it should be to examine personally into the condition of the insane confined in the public and private lunatic asylums, alms-houses, and report their condition to the next legislature with such suggestions for their



relief as may be deemed proper." In pursuance of this action the Legislature, by an act passed April 30, 1864, devolved upon the Secretary of the State Medical Society, Dr. Sylvester D. Willard, the duty of procuring the information desired and furnishing a report. The law directed that a series of questions likely to elicit the greatest amount of information on the subject should be prepared, printed, and transmitted to each county judge in the state:—

\*"It directed the county judge, on the reception thereof, to appoint a competent physician, a resident of the county, to visit the county poor-house, or institution where the insane poor are kept, and to examine into the condition and treatment of the insane inmates, and to transmit the results of the examination. It directed me thereupon, to condense the information so received, and report the same to your honorable body." Fifty-two physicians of as many counties furnished replies to the questions propounded, and the information received furnished the basis of the report and suggestions of Dr. Willard to the Legislature of 1865. In his message to the Legislature Gov. Fenton, in calling attention to the condition of the insane poor thus alluded to the forthcoming report of Dr. Willard: "The Legislature of 1864 directed an investigation into the condition of the insane poor confined in the various county poor-houses. A report, by Dr. Willard, will be duly presented, showing the deplorable condition of this most unfortunate class. There are in fifty-five counties confined in poor-houses, or poor-house asylums, not including New York and Kings, thirteen hundred and forty-five lunatics, nearly all of whom are incurable; many have become, and others are fast becoming incurable from inefficient care and treatment. The time has arrived when legislative provision should be made. The propriety of establishing an institution for *incurables*—an institution that shall relieve county authorities from the care of the insane, should be deliberately considered.

"More than one-fourth of this number of insane are capable of some labor. To what extent that labor, organized and sys-

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\*Report of Dr. Willard.



temized, might be made productive in the maintenance of an institution, under well-directed superintendence is likewise worthy of consideration."

A bill was reported by the committee, of which Dr. W. H. Richardson was chairman, creating a second State Lunatic Asylum, to be known as the *Beck Asylum for the Insane*. Dr. Willard died April 2, 1865. In a biographical notice published in the transactions of the State Medical Society for 1866, Dr. Franklin B. Hough pays a deserved tribute to the work of Dr. Willard, in investigating the condition of the insane poor, his energy in collecting information, and his zeal in promoting the establishment of a new asylum for their care. His biographer remarks, "his death made a marked impression upon the public mind, and his prominent position (Surgeon General of the State of New York) suggested a further mark of honor. The bill then in the Senate was amended, and became a law with the name changed to *The Willard Asylum for the Insane*.

The title of the bill as passed was : "An Act to authorize the establishment of a State Asylum for the chronic insane, and for the better care of the insane poor, to be known as the Willard Asylum for the Insane." Dr. John P. Gray, Dr. Julian T. Williams, and Dr. John B. Chapin were appointed commissioners by Governor Fenton to locate and erect the asylum. In deciding upon a location the commission was directed to "first seek for and select any property owned by the State, or upon which it had a lien," referring by implication to the State Agricultural College in the town of Ovid. Soon after their organization the commission adopted a proposition that the plan of the Willard Asylum should comprise a central administration block; wings for the hospital care of excited patients and such others as required for any reason frequent medical visitation and supervision; and groups of detached blocks for the reception and care of harmless, industrious and manageable patients.

The commission having obtained a title to the State Agricultural College in December, 1865, submitted plans to Governor Fenton in January, 1866, which were subsequently approved



by him. At this period Dr. Gray withdrew from the commission and Dr. Lyman Congdon was appointed in his place. During the summer of 1866 a contract was made for the erection of the center building, one section of the north and south wings, the buildings in the rear of the center, and work was commenced.

In accordance with powers conferred upon the governor, James A. Bell of Jefferson, Judge Allen of Washington, Sterling G. Hadley, John E. Seeley, James Ferguson of Seneca, and Genet Conger of Ontario, were appointed trustees of the asylum, in 1867. In January, 1869, Dr. John B. Chapin was appointed Medical Superintendent, and accepted the office April 1st.

The title and the several sections of the organic act of the asylum indicate the plain intent of the Legislature to change the system which was then in existence of providing for recent cases in a state asylum, and chronic and incurable cases in poor-houses. The act creating the Willard Asylum required that all cases, both recent and chronic, of the indigent class needing the treatment or care of an asylum for the insane, should on the completion of the new asylum, be placed under State supervision and custodial care. The Willard law indicated a great advance of public sentiment toward the better care of the insane poor. The plans prepared by the commission contemplated the segregation of patients and classes according to their condition, and a plant which would permit the economical enlargement of the asylum by the erection of additional blocks. While the State had thus entered upon a comprehensive system for the care of the insane, plans were adopted which were a decided departure from those which, previously, had been regarded as most suitable, and even essential. Three years before the asylum was ready for occupation, the manner in which the purpose of the Legislature was to be executed, was foreshadowed in the following language, which may be reproduced here: "The plan of buildings at Ovid comprises a hospital for the paroxysmal, excited, and grossly demented, with groups of detached blocks, plain and inexpensive in their construction, for those whose condition is such as to permit of their being employed in agri-



cultural, horticultural, or other industrial pursuits, with benefit to themselves and the asylum. It is believed that the plan of building here indicated will materially reduce the cost of construction; allow of a system of classification and general management which will considerably diminish the cost of maintenance; at the same time that the health and happiness of the patients will be in the highest degree promoted. This plan also permits of expansion in such a manner as to obviate the objections to a large establishment under one roof. The institution is, in short, designed to supersede the miserable system of providing for the chronic insane in the poor-houses, and by placing them in an establishment adapted to their condition, care for them in accordance with medical and humane ideas, develop their industrial capacities, and demonstrate the fact that they can be properly provided for at a cost per week which will place such care within the reach of every county, thus opening the way to the complete abandonment of county-house receptacles for such of the chronic insane as may need the custodial appliances of an asylum for the insane."

"For the first time the important principle is recognized that the chronic insane poor are equally with the acute recent cases, entitled to proper care and treatment under state supervision; and any state which neglects to provide for all of this unfortunate class, by the establishment of a humane, comprehensive system of care, is guilty of injustice and partiality."

Three principal objects were sought to be accomplished:—

First: The care of the insane of the chronic and incurable class in a state institution, and their transfer from county poor-houses to state supervision:

Second: The modification and change of the usually approved hospital plans, so as to reduce the cost of construction materially, and the erection of supplemental or detached buildings for the care of mild and harmless cases, and,

Third: The aggregation of numbers in order to divide the cost of support among a large number so that the average charge might be reduced.

The commissioners having reported the buildings in course



of construction, so far advanced toward completion as to be in readiness for occupation during the year, the Legislature in May, 1869, abolished the commission, devolved its powers and duties upon a new board of trustees, which was created to supersede the board first appointed. The new board consisted of John E. Seeley, Sterling G. Hadley, Samuel R. Welles, William A. Swaby, of Seneca; Darius A. Ogden, of Yates; George J. Magee, of Schuyler; Francis O. Mason and Genet Conger, of Ontario.

In September, a circular was issued to the superintendents of the poor, announcing that the asylum would be ready for the reception of two hundred and fifty patients on the 12th of October. Applications for more than five hundred patients were received. On the 13th October the first patients were received, three of whom were brought in chains.

In 1870, the Legislature made an appropriation to extend the south wing, and to alter the Agricultural College building for the accommodation of patients, known thereafter as the *Branch*. In 1871, the south wing was extended and a group of five detached blocks was commenced which were completed in 1872. The second group was occupied in 1876; the third group in 1877; and the fourth group in 1880.

As it has been the policy of the trustees to make no discrimination in the condition of patients to be received, and as they have encouraged the transfer of such cases as would seem to afford the greatest relief to county institutions, there has been as was to be anticipated, an unusual accumulation of patients in an advanced stage of enfeeblement, epileptics, paralytics, and others bed-ridden from various causes of physical impairment, all requiring much personal attendance day and night. In 1884, the trustees recommended that new buildings be erected for the special and better care of this group of cases, numbering about one hundred of each sex. The Legislature of 1886, authorized the erection of a group of detached blocks as an infirmary for men, and a further modification of the building known as the *Branch*, to be hereafter used as an infirmary for women. The principal features of the one story infirmary



wards are the allotment of the space to day wards and large dormitories, with a few single rooms, large associate dining-rooms, and an administration block, all calculated to furnish an efficient service both night and day.

Additions of land have been made to the original purchase from time to time. The farm of the asylum now comprises nine hundred and thirty-one (931) acres.

The total expenditure for erection of buildings of all kinds, land, furniture, water works, and all purposes, except salaries and maintenance, has been \$1,489,841.00. The capacity of the asylum is 1800, and the average cost of construction, equipment, land, improvements, changes and subsequent modifications, has been \$827 per patient. The whole number of patients admitted from the opening of the asylum October 12, 1869, to September 30, 1886, was three thousand nine hundred and sixty-four (3,964).

The following table shows the average cost of support for a period of fourteen years, excluding salaries of the staff of medical officers and clothing. The table is of interest in showing the relation that numbers bears to the cost of support, and how much the products of a large farm, and the labor of patients may reduce it:

1872,	daily average of patients	564;	weekly cost	\$3.15
1873,	"	"	727;	" " 3.09
1874,	"	"	827;	" " 3.09
1875,	"	"	938;	" " 2.96
1876,	"	"	1,076;	" " 2.83
1877,	"	"	1,227;	" " 2.87
1878,	"	"	1,340;	" " 2.71
1879,	"	"	1,430;	" " 2.63
1880,	"	"	1,565;	" " 2.72
1881,	"	"	1,695;	" " 2.67
1882,	"	"	1,759;	" " 2.64
1883,	"	"	1,748;	" " 2.65
1884,	"	"	1,790;	" " 2.61
1885,	"	"	1,835;	" " 2.37
1886,	"	"	1,835;	" " 2.26



The following persons have served as Trustees of the Asylum since its opening:

John E. Seeley,	Reappointed 1869;	-	Resigned 1872
Genet Conger,	" 1869;	-	" 1877
Sterling G. Hadley,	" 1869;	-	Still in office
Darius A. Ogden,	Appointed 1869;	-	" " "
George J. Magee,	" 1869;	-	Resigned 1884
Samuel R. Welles,	" 1869;	-	Still in office
William A. Swaby,	" 1869;	-	Term expired 1882
Francis O. Mason,	" 1869;	-	Still in office
George W. Jones,	" 1873;	-	Died Oct. 17, 1886
James F. D. Slee,	" 1877;	-	Term expired 1882
Diedrich Willers, Jr.,	" 1882;	-	Still in office
S. H. Hammond,	" 1882;		" " "
A. S. Stothoff,	" 1884;	-	" " "

Dr. Chapin resigned the office of Medical Superintendent September 1, 1884, to accept the appointment of Physician-in-chief of the Pennsylvania Hospital for the Insane, and was succeeded by Dr. P. M. Wise, formerly the senior medical officer.

On the creation of the Willard Asylum, its objects and plans became the subject of wide-spread professional discussion, but its practical results have taken the place of speculation and theory. It has been demonstrated that it is practicable to reduce the usual cost of construction of asylums for the insane, and their subsequent maintenance; to abolish all mechanical forms of restraint; and to enlarge their personal liberty and means of employment. A marked modification of the views that had been entertained in regard to plans of asylums, and the policy of the State toward the indigent insane, has taken place. Not the less remarkable, and among the secondary respects has been the decided improvement in the condition of county almshouses, due in part to the removal of a disturbing and troublesome class. While the plans that were adopted may not be exactly such as would now be recommended with the experience of eighteen years, they, however, embody ideas and suggestions which, it will be found, mark a new departure, and will work important changes in asylums to be hereafter erected.



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PLANS AND ELEVATIONS.

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## MAIN BUILDING.

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### THREE STORIES.

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#### REFERENCES TO THE PLAN.

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*Scale 56 feet to one inch.*

*A.* Reception rooms. Those at the entrance to either wing are for the use of patients who are visited by friends.

*B.* Superintendent's office, 10 x 16.

*C.* General office, 18 x 27.

*D.* Vault, 7 x 7.

*E.* Steward's office, 17 x 22.

*F.* Dispensary, 18 x 22.

*G.* Corridors. The main corridors in the wards are 12 feet in width. In the administration building, 9 feet in width.

*H.* Officer's dining-room. Second floor, Superintendent's dining-room, 18 x 31.

*I.* Matron's offices, 13 x 36.

*J.* Steward's clerk's office, 14 x 17.

The above references are to the first floor plan of the chief, or administration building. On the second floor are the residences of the superintendent and matron and on the third floor rooms for two assistant medical officers and women employees.

*K.* Water closets.

*L.* Attendant's rooms.

*M.* Clothes rooms.

*N.* Patients dining-rooms.

*O.* Lavatories.

*P.* Bath rooms.

*R.* Associate dormitories, 14 x 22.

*S.* Single dormitories, 9 x 11.

The second floor of the wings is similar to the first. The third floor is divided into larger associate dormitories for the night care of the feeble, and has fewer single rooms.

*T.* General kitchen, 30 x 38. Basement tramway to wings.

*U.* Steam kitchens, 22 x 28 and 14 x 18.

*V.* Scullery and vegetable room, 18 x 34.

*Ne.* Employees' dining-room, 18 x 40.

Above *U.*, *V.*, *Ne.* and *G.* is the chapel.

*Me.* Employees' rooms; same above.

*Fr.* Ventilating fan and room.

*Er.* Engine room, 18 x 38.

*W.* Boilers and boiler room, 46 x 46.

*X.* Smoke stack.

*Z.* Bakery, 36 x 38.

*Aa.* Bread room, 19 x 22.

*Ab.* Flour room, 16 x 22.

*Ac.* Double ovens, 14 x 22.

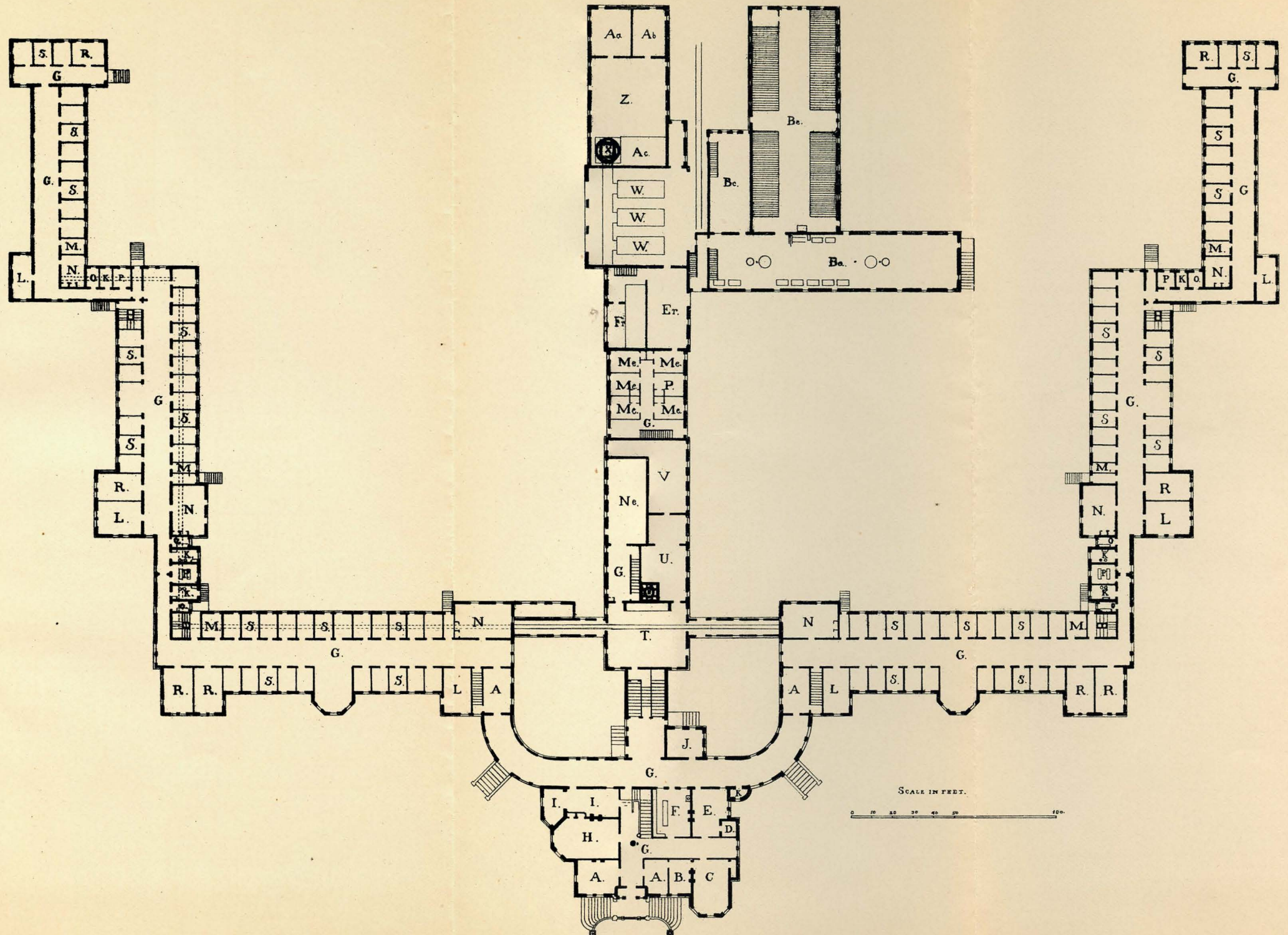
*Ba.* Washing room, 26 x 120. On the floor above is ironing room.

*Bc.* Soiled clothes receiving room, 20 x 64.

*Be.* Drying room, 40 x 105. Above is the assorting room.



·WILLARD·ASYLUM·FOR·THE·INSANE·  
·MAIN·BUILDING



·FIRST·FLOOR·PLAN·



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FIRST FLOOR PLAN  
AND  
FRONT ELEVATION  
OF A GROUP OF  
DETACHED BUILDINGS.

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FOUR TWO-STORY DORMITORY BUILDINGS AND A THREE-STORY REFECTORY BUILDING WITH KITCHEN AND BOILER ROOM ATTACHED, COMPRISE A SINGLE GROUP, OR BLOCK, OF WHICH THERE ARE FOUR, QUITE SIMILAR IN DESIGN. THE DORMITORY BUILDINGS ARE SEPARATED NINE FEET FROM EACH OTHER AND FROM THE REFECTORY BUILDING, WITH THE EXCEPTION OF A LATTICED CORRIDOR CONNECTING THE FIRST STORIES. EACH GROUP, OR BLOCK, HAS ACCOMMODATIONS FOR TWO HUNDRED AND FIFTY PATIENTS, FOR A RESIDENT PHYSICIAN AND FOR THE NECESSARY OFFICERS AND EMPLOYES IN ITS ORGANIZATION.

*References to plan on opposite page.*

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## REFERENCES.

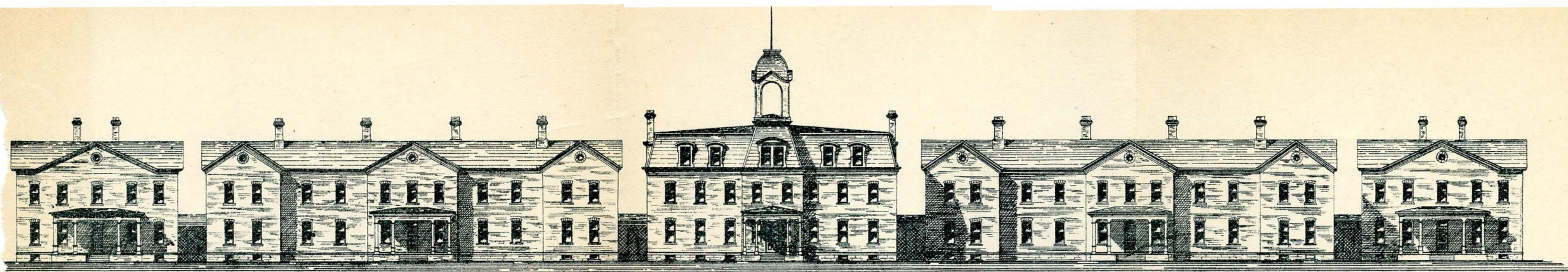
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*Scale 36 feet to one inch.*

- A.* Reception room and office, 12 x 15.
- B.* Corridor and stairway, 10 x 33.
- C.* Associate dining halls for 125 patients each, 30 x 42.
- D.* Portico.
- E.* Kitchen, 19 x 35.
- G.* Storerooms, 14 x 18.
- H.* Employes' dining-room, 14 x 16.
- I.* Employes' water closets.
- J.* Boiler room, 22 x 37.
- K.* Associate dormitories.
- L.* Single dormitories, 9 x 11 x 11.
- M.* Attendants' rooms.
- N.* Clothes room.
- O.* Lavatories and closets.
- P.* Bath rooms.
- R.* Day rooms, 20 x 46.
- S.* Corridors, 10 feet in width.

The second story of the center, or refectory building, furnishes a residence for officers, and the third floor rooms for employes. The second story plan of dormitory buildings is a duplicate of the first story.

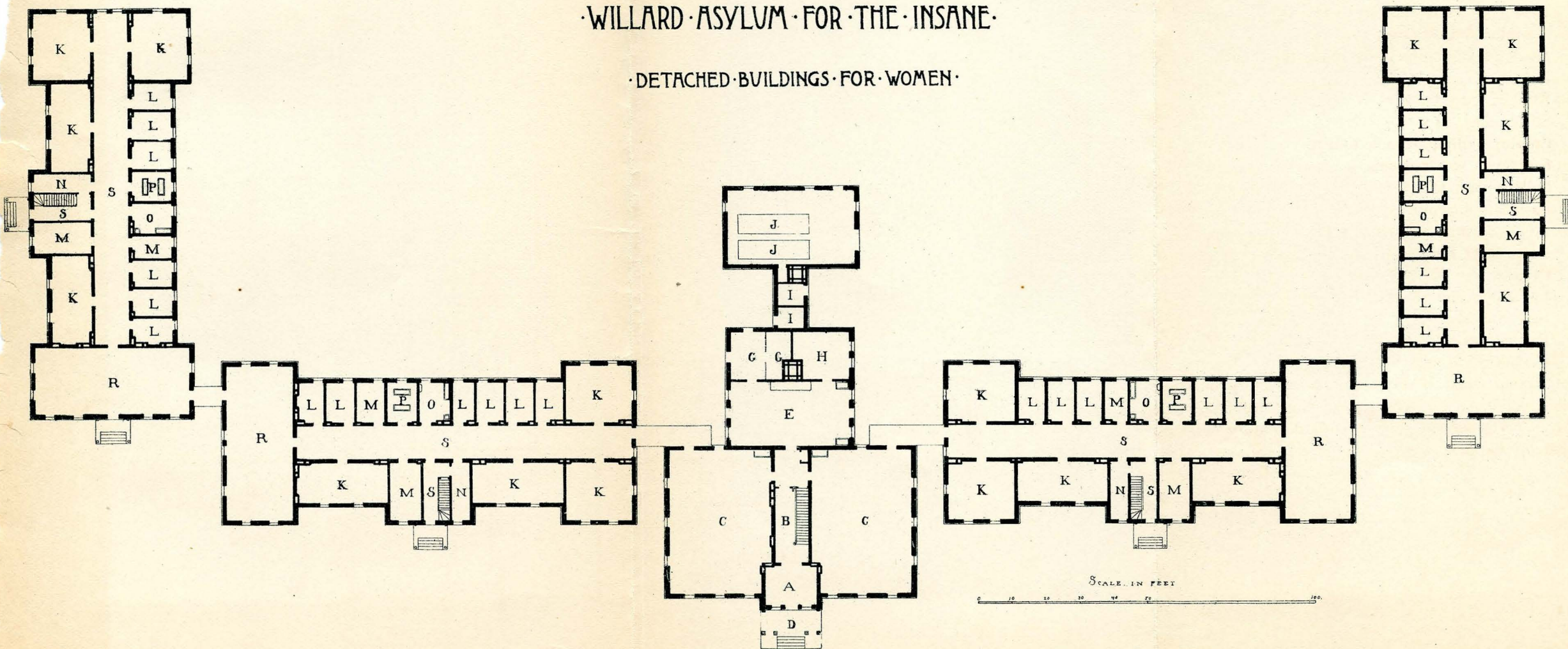




FRONT ELEVATION.

·WILLARD·ASYLUM·FOR·THE·INSANE·

·DETACHED·BUILDINGS·FOR·WOMEN·



·FIRST·FLOOR·PLAN·

SCALE IN FEET  
0 10 20 30 40 50 60 70 80 90 100



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First Floor Plan and Elevations  
OF THE  
INFIRMARY FOR MEN.

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## INFIRMARY FOR MEN.

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### FIRST FLOOR PLAN.

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*Scale 50 feet to one inch.*

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### REFERENCES.

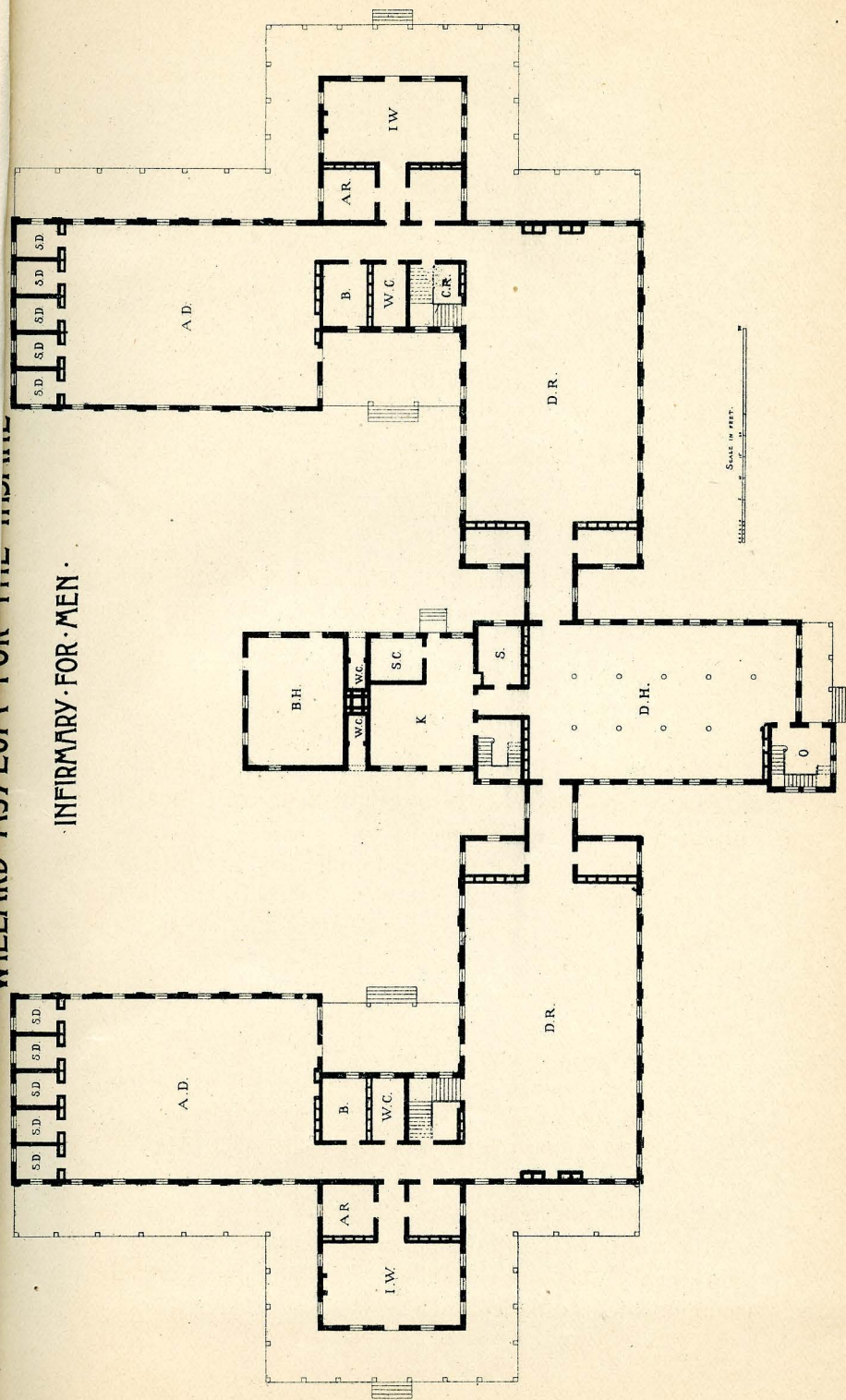
- O.* Office, 14 x 14.  
*D. H.* Dining halls, 38 x 62; sixteen feet floor space per patient.  
*S.* Scullery.  
*K.* Kitchen, 24 x 30.  
*S. C.* Store closet. (Plan not carried out in building; the *S. C.* is placed in the room designated by a stairway, adjoining the kitchen.)  
*W. C.* Water closets for employes.  
*B. H.* Boiler house, 22 x 30; supplied with two boilers, five by ten feet.  
*D. R.* One story day rooms, 40 x 69. Height of ceiling, ten feet at walls, finished to sixteen feet at truss; making an average height of thirteen feet.  
*A. D.* One story associated dormitories, 42 x 60; finished to ceiling the same as *D. R.* Between *A. D.* and *D. R.* is a two-story building. The arrangement of the second floor is similar to the first.  
*I. W.* Infirmary ward, 19 x 32, for sick and bed-ridden patients.  
*A. R.* Nurse's room, 12 x 12.  
*B.* Bath rooms.  
*W. C.* Water closets.

The central building is three stories in height. Above *D. H.* are rooms for officers and employes. The third floor gives accommodations for night attendants. A covered portico twelve feet in width, extends around either side of the building, as shown in the plan and elevation. The building is intended to accommodate 150 patients.



WILLARD 1871 FOR THE BOARD

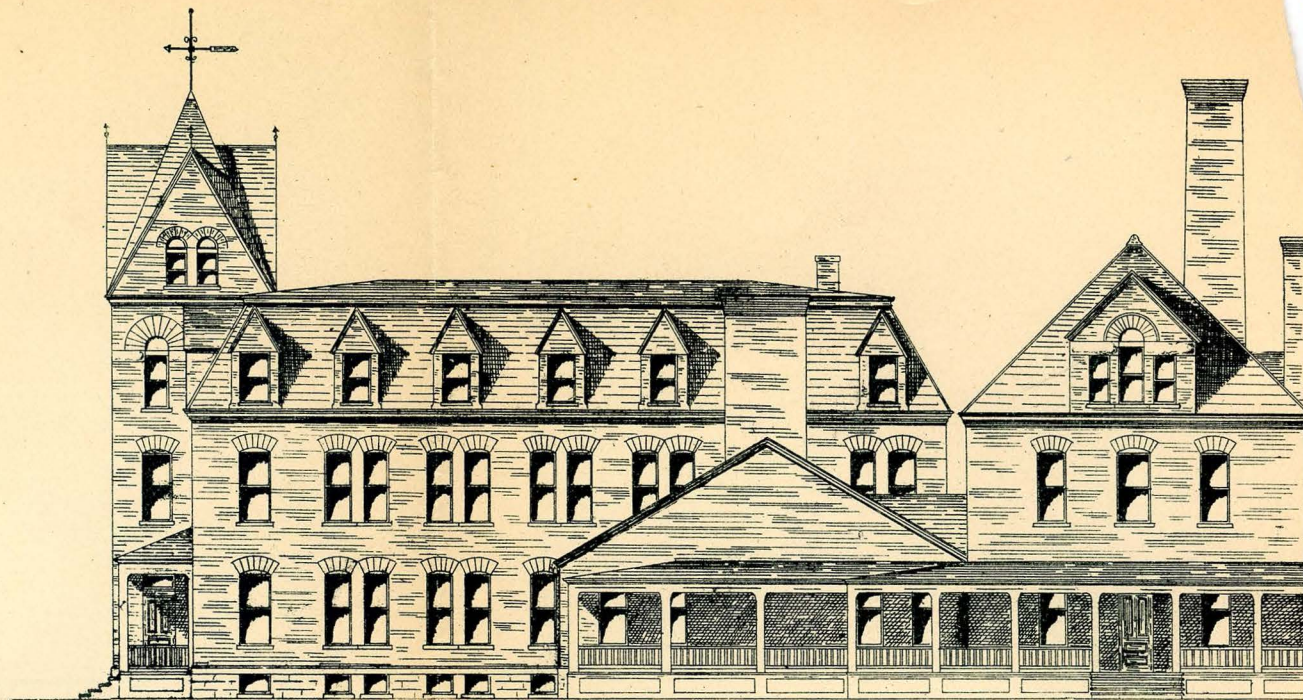
INFIRMARY FOR MEN



SCALE IN FEET.  
0 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10

FIRST FLOOR PLAN

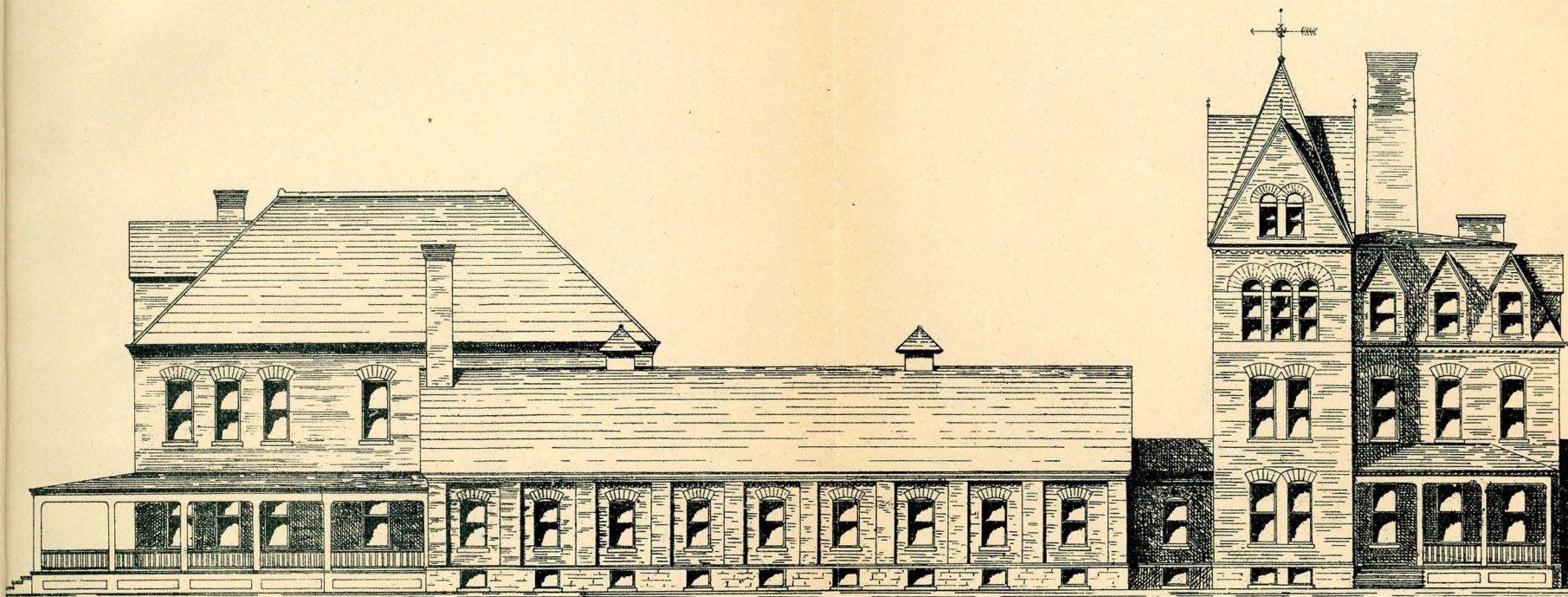




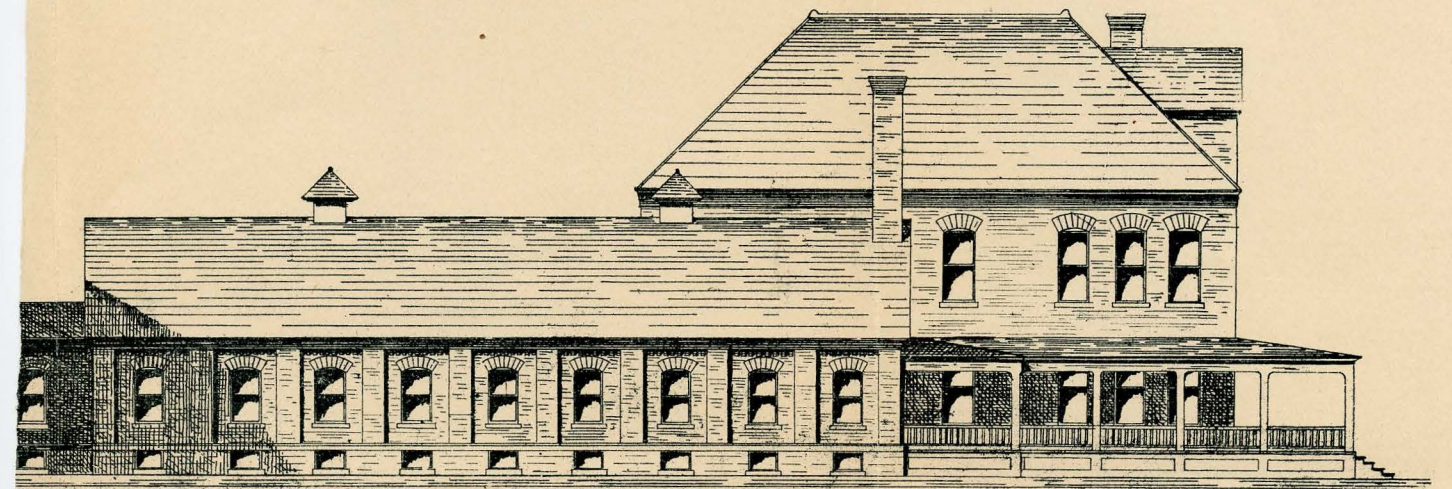
SIDE ELEVATION.

WILLARD ASYLUM · FOR · THE · INSANE ·

INFIRMARY FOR MEN



FRONT ELEVATION.





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First Floor Plan and Front Elevation

OF THE

INFIRMARY FOR WOMEN (BRANCH).

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## INFIRMARY FOR WOMEN (BRANCH).

### FIRST FLOOR PLAN.

*Scale 20 feet to one inch.*

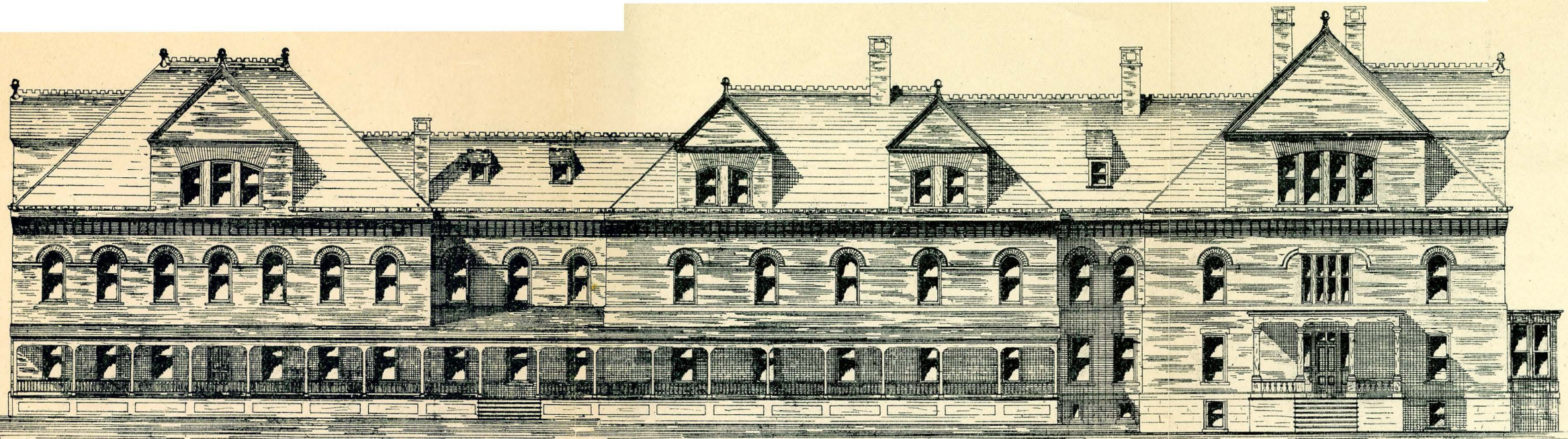
This building is two stories in height throughout. It was originally the New York State Agricultural College building and was four stories in height. During the year 1886, the original building was reduced to two stories, and a two-story extension built, the whole to accommodate 225 infirm women. The interior arrangements are such as to permit the economical night care of patients in large associate dormitories (B).

#### REFERENCES.

- A. Day rooms, containing, together, 5,296 feet of floor space.
- B. Associate dormitories, 42 x 64 and 40 x 64.
- C. Hospital ward, 22 x 35.
- D. Single rooms, 9 x 13.
- E. Dining hall for 120 patients, 40 x 40.
- F. Clothes rooms.
- G. Bed linen rooms.
- H. Corridors.
- K. Bath rooms.
- K. L. Officer's bath rooms.
- L. Water closets.
- M. Nurses' room.
- N. Nurses' closet.
- O. Covered porticos.
- P. Medical officer's rooms.
- R. Officer's dining-room.
- S. Office.
- T. Lady supervisor's rooms.

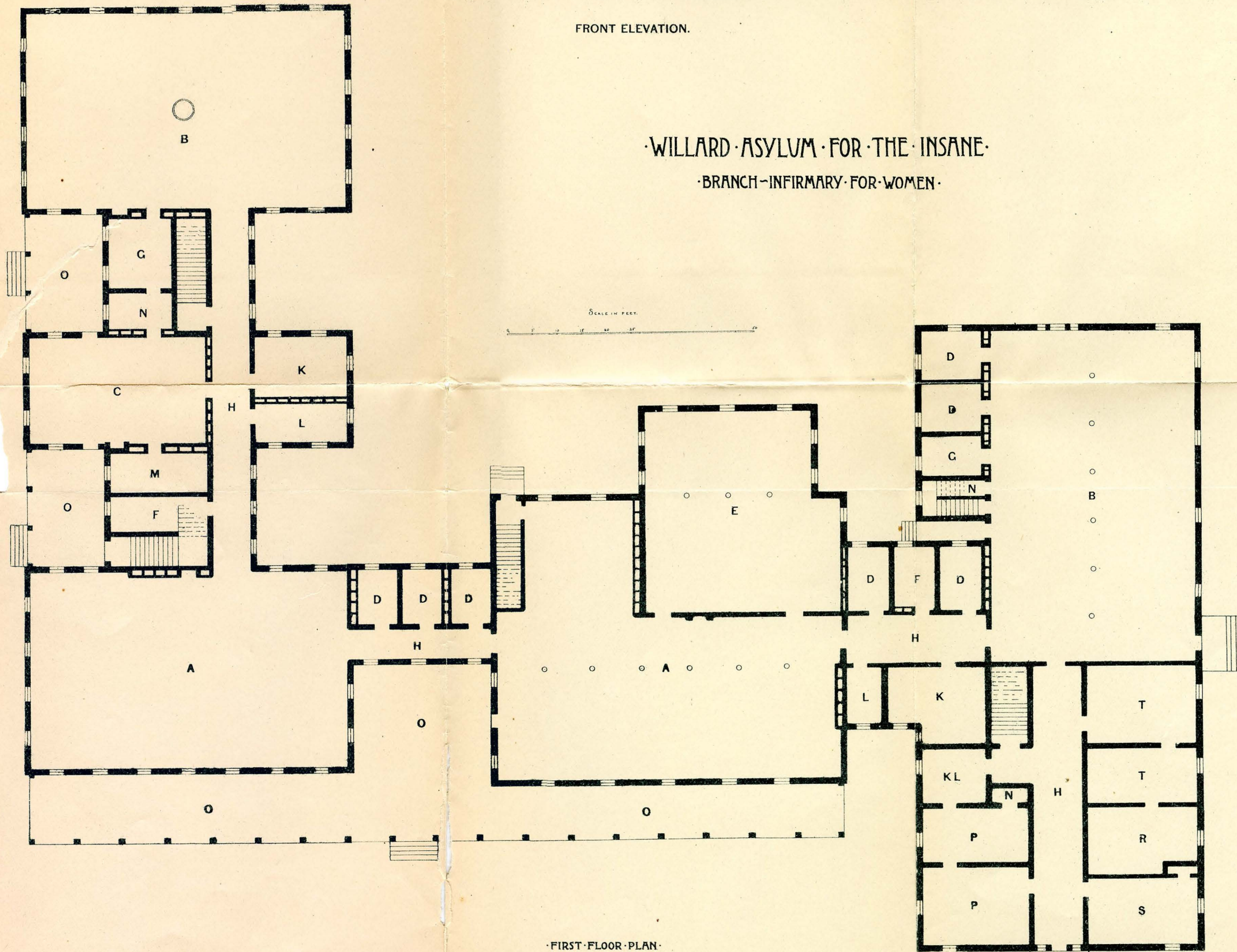
Above officer's quarters are rooms for employees. The kitchen is in the basement, underneath E. Attic rooms furnish sleeping apartments for night attendants.





FRONT ELEVATION.

·WILLARD·ASYLUM·FOR·THE·INSANE·  
·BRANCH·INFIRMARY·FOR·WOMEN·



·FIRST·FLOOR·PLAN·